

What Egypt's Prophecy Means to Me, Psalm 83 – February 13th, 2011

- Today we're going to do something that what we do not usually do, because of the fast moving events of the week as it relates to Egypt.
- Towards the end of this last week, I sensed that the Lord was leading me to devote our Sunday morning teaching to Bible Prophecy.
- I took the posture of waiting on the Lord to confirm that He was indeed prompting me to do this instead of our ongoing study in Romans.

- While in prayer on Saturday morning I received, what I like to call, the "green light" from the Lord to teach on Egypt in Bible Prophecy.
- It's for this reason that I chose to title today's prophecy update; "What Egypt's Prophecy Means to Me." For this we will be in Psalm 83.
- However, before you turn there, we'll start where we left off last week, for the benefit of those who weren't with us, in Isaiah 19:1-4.

Isaiah 19:1-4 TNIV A prophecy concerning Egypt: See, the LORD rides on a swift cloud and is coming to Egypt. The idols of Egypt tremble before him, and the hearts of the Egyptians melt within them. (2) "I will stir up Egyptian against Egyptian— brother will fight against brother, neighbor against neighbor, city against city, kingdom against kingdom. (3) The Egyptians will lose heart, and I will bring their plans to nothing; they will consult the idols and the spirits of the dead, the mediums and the spiritists. (4) I will hand the Egyptians over to the power of a cruel master, and a fierce king will rule over them," declares the Lord, the LORD Almighty.

- It's this pastor's belief that we may have just witnessed, and will continue to see, this prophecy here in verses 1-4 fulfilled in real time.
- Now, I am keenly aware that I could be wrong, but it does seem to me that verses 1-2 could play out as they give way to verses 3-4.
- Their plans for freedom which they fight so hard for will come to nothing, then God will hand them over to the cruel rule of a fierce king.

- It's been suggested by some that this cruel master and fierce king Isaiah prophecies about is none other than the Anti-Christ himself.
- Personally, this is very plausible in that the world now seems to be begging for a leader to come and take his place on the world stage.
- This interpretation seemingly fits with other prophecies in the scriptures, not the least of which is the one we find in the book of Daniel.

Daniel 11:42-43 KJV He shall stretch forth his hand also upon the countries: and the land of Egypt shall not escape. (43) But he shall have power over the treasures of gold and of silver, and over all the precious things of Egypt: and the Libyans and the Ethiopians *shall be* at his steps.

- If this is where all of this is heading, then it becomes very likely that the situation in Egypt has potentially fast forwarded the rapture.
- Both Isaiah and Daniel's prophecies concerning Egypt describe how she will ultimately come under the cruel rule of the Anti-Christ.
- If what we see now leads to the fulfillment of Isaiah 19 and Daniel 11 which takes place in the tribulation, then how close is the rapture.

2 Thessalonians 2:3-4 NKJV (3) Let no one deceive you by any means; for *that Day will not come* unless the falling away comes first, and the man of sin is revealed, the son of perdition, (4) who opposes and exalts himself above all that is called God or that is worshiped, so that he sits as God in the temple of God, showing himself that he is God.

- In other words, the Anti-Christ cannot be revealed until the church is removed first. Perhaps you'll be a Berean and search this out.
- The words "falling away" in the original language, is "apostasia" where we get our word apostasy, meaning turning away and departing.
- I believe, and I'm in good company, that this is one of the most compelling arguments for the rapture taking place before the tribulation.

- In the interest of time, I'm unable to take the time to go into the reasons the rapture of the church has to happen before the tribulation.
- Be that as it may and suffice it to say, the situation in Egypt may have set in motion an unstoppable momentum in fulfilling prophecy.
- So much so, that we may actually be seeing, in part, many of these things begin to come to pass prior to our departure at the rapture.

- My prayer is that at the conclusion of our time together today in God's Word, all of us will have renewed encouragement and hope.
- Having said that, let's go to Psalm 83 and unpack all the prophetic pieces to this prophecy puzzle and put it together for a clear picture.
- Psalm 83 is actually a prophecy put to song by Asaph concerning a plot against Israel, cunningly conspired to destroy them as a nation.

- Before we jump into this Psalm, I think I would be remiss were I not to recommend a book on Psalm 83 by Bill Salus, titled; "Israelestine."
- In it, he addresses Psalm 83 and how close we really are to its fulfillment and how it will set the stage for the Ezekiel 38 attack on Israel.
- You can also go his website at www.israelestine.net for up to date articles on Psalm 83 specifically related to the situation in Egypt.

Psalms 83:1-18 NIV A song. A psalm of Asaph. O God, do not keep silent; be not quiet, O God, be not still. (2) See how your enemies are astir, how your foes rear their heads. (3) With cunning they conspire against your people; they plot against those you cherish. (4) "Come," they say, "let us destroy them as a nation, that the name of Israel be remembered no more." (5) With one mind they plot together; they form an alliance against you— (6) **the tents of Edom and the Ishmaelites, of Moab and the Hagrites, (7) Gebal, Ammon and Amalek, Philistia, with the people of Tyre. (8) Even Assyria has joined them to lend strength to the descendants of Lot. Selah.** (9) Do to them as you did to Midian, as you did to Sisera and Jabin at the river Kishon, (10) who perished at Endor and became like refuse on the ground. (11) Make their nobles like Oreb and Zeeb, all their princes like Zebah and Zalmunna, (12) who said, "Let us take possession of the pasturelands of God." (13) Make them like tumbleweed, O my God, like chaff before the wind. (14) As fire consumes the forest or a flame sets the mountains ablaze, (15) so pursue them with your tempest and terrify them with your storm. (16) Cover their faces with shame so that men will seek your name, O LORD. (17) May they ever be ashamed and dismayed; may they perish in disgrace. (18) Let them know that you, whose name is the LORD— that you alone are the Most High over all the earth.

- Using Google Earth, I'm going to attempt to identify the nationalities of those that are listed, specifically in verses six through eight.
- I think it's incumbent on me to preface this by saying that, as an Arab, there is so much confusion about who's who in the Middle-East.
- What we're about to see in Psalm 83 can once and for all clear this up for a better understanding of the Middle-East in the last days.

- Asaph lists 10 people groups, if you will, in these three verses (6-8), and the common denominator is that they're all what we call Arabs.
- This list consists of the ancient names of those whose sole goal is to destroy the nation of Israel so her name is remembered no more.
- It's important to know, as we'll see next, that every single one of them either borders Israel, are in Israel, or close in proximity to Israel.

Verse 6	Tents of Edom	Palestinians and what we would know as the modern day Jordanians in part, descendants of Esau
Verse 6	Ishmaelites	Primarily Arabs, some believe Saudi's, however, they are clearly descendants of Ishmael
Verse 6	Moab	The Moabites are Arabs whom we today refer to as the Palestinians however, I see them as Jordanians
Verse 6	Hagrites	The descendants of Hagar (Egypt), and a distinction needs to be made between them and the Ishmaelites
Verse 7	Gebal	This is the area we know today as, in part, modern day Lebanon chiefly the northern part bordering Syria
Verse 7	Ammon	The Ammonites are really known as Jordanians today, however, we refer to them as the Palestinians
Verse 7	Amalek	The Amalekites are a broad melting pot of Arab people groups encompassing the greater Middle-East
Verse 7	Philistia	These would have to be descendants of the ancient Philistine's, though a melting pot of modern day Arabs
Verse 7	Tyre	Clearly this is Lebanon, and according to our maps today, these people border Northern Israel
Verse 8	Assyria	This covers an wide area today that would include Syria, Iraq, and perhaps more significantly, Turkey

- I would suggest, that we may in fact be witnessing the fulfillment of Psalm 83, starting with, and in light of, the recent events in Egypt.
- I'll take it a step further and suggest the possibility that Psalm 83 is in concert with the "surrounding peoples" prophecy in Zechariah 12.
- Perhaps you'll indulge me as I take it one step further and suggest that Psalm 83 and Zechariah 12 could bring about Ezekiel 38-39.

- The reason I say that is; this would explain the conspicuous absence in Ezekiel of every one of these surrounding people in Psalm 83.
- One might argue that Iran and Turkey are very prominently listed in Ezekiel 38, and chiefly Turkey is also mentioned in Psalm 83.
- Iran and Turkey are involved only by proxy in the Psalm 83 attack on Israel. When it fails they will take the lead in the Ezekiel 38 attack.

- About now you may be thinking this is interesting, but wondering what it has to do with you when your alarm clock goes off tomorrow.
- Well I'm glad you asked here's why; I titled this "what Egypt's prophecy means to me," because it has profound meaning to you and me.
- What is happening on the other side of the world in Egypt, will affect our lives all the way over here on these beloved Hawaiian Islands.

1. It's time to wakeup and get ready

Romans 13:11-12 11 And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. 12 The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. NIV

Matthew 24:44 Therefore you also be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. NKJV

Luke 21:28 When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." NIV

2. It's time to let others know so they're ready

1 Peter 3:15 But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect, NIV

3. It's time to take heart and not give up hope

1 Thessalonians 4:15-18 (15) According to the Lord's own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. (16) For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. (17) After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. (18) Therefore encourage each other with these words. NIV

2 Timothy 4:8 Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing. NIV

1 John 3:2-3 2 Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be has not yet been made known. But we know that when he appears, we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 3 Everyone who has this hope in him purifies himself, just as he is pure. NIV

4. It's time to call upon and believe in Jesus Christ

John 14:29 "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. NKJV

Romans 3:10 As it is written: "There is no one righteous, not even one;

Romans 3:23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God

Romans 5:12 Therefore, just as sin entered the world through one man, and death through sin, and in this way death came to all men, because all sinned-

Romans 6:23 For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 5:8 But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 10:9-10 ...if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. 10 For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:13 for, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."